

# The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

Your Right to Know

28 PAGES PRICE : Tk 10.00



## EFFETTO BIENNALE, MEXICO

Laila Sharmeen represents Bangladesh with a video installation

PAGE 10-11

## UGLINESS & INDECENCY

Something about a not very edifying spectacle of politics

PAGE 14

## REWARD \$10 MILLION

The US announces bounty for the founder of Lashkar-e-Taiba

PAGE 6

## PADMA BRIDGE SCAM

# Canadian firm out of race

WB temporarily bans SNC Lavalin unit; govt hopes for early solution to WB financing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The World Bank has temporarily suspended a unit of the Canadian company SNC-Lavalin from participating in tenders of WB-funded projects. The suspension follows the findings that have come out so far from an ongoing probe into allegations of bidding anomalies in the Padma bridge project.

SNC-Lavalin, the lowest bidder in the project's construction supervisory consultancy involving \$50 million, confirmed

it on Monday without mentioning the name of the unit.

However, a Canadian newspaper, "Canadian Business", identified the unit as the engineering firm's Bangladesh subsidiary.

According to the WB website, the temporary suspension on a bidder is imposed before the completion of an investigation by the World Bank Integrity Vice Presidency (INT) if there is already sufficient evidence of malpractices that demands a sanction of minimum debarment of at least two years.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2



Residents of Tejkunipara at Tejgaon, one of the areas badly hit by the water crisis in the capital, wait at Bijoy Sarani flyover on Monday around 11:00pm for a Wasa lorry. Inset, people at Dayaganj in the city are trying to collect water leaking from a pipe of a Wasa lorry on Monday around 10:00am. The leaks, however, are causing huge water waste.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON/PALASH KHAN

## MLM: is it a scam?

STAR REPORT

Multilevel marketing or MLM has become a serious source of debate.

Although MLMs are intrinsically unstable and only guaranteed by design to oversaturate the market, thousands of people are running after it. Most of the times, the only money to be made is not from the product or service but from the losses of

SEE PAGE 19 COL 7  
READ MORE ON B4

## DESTINY UNDER SCANNER

# Questions over sister concerns

NBR asks banks to turn in accounts, transaction details

SAJJADUR RAHMAN

The controversial multilevel marketing (MLM) company Destiny hoodwinks people by adding to its group portfolio some companies that exist only on paper.

For instance, among its 37 sister concerns listed on the website is Destiny Life Insurance Company. Although the insurance company is nowhere near getting a licence, it is selling the name of its mother company, Destiny-2000 Ltd, to its would-

be distributors.

Of these 37 concerns, many, including Destiny Builders, Destiny Medical College Hospital and Best Air, are yet to begin operations.

"We've applied for a life insurance company licence, but we are yet to get it," Rafiqul Amin, managing director of Destiny Group, told The Daily Star yesterday.

"It's not cheating, it's a forecast," he

SEE PAGE 19 COL 8

# Azad escapes arrest

War crimes tribunal-2 issues warrant

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY

War crimes suspect Abul Kalam Azad went on the run around seven hours before the International Crimes Tribunal-2 had issued arrest warrant against him.

The former Islami Chhatra Sangha leader left his Uttarkhan home in the capital around 3:30am with his sons Jihad Azad and Faysal Azad, said Sunanda Roy, an assistant commissioner of the Detective Branch (DB) of Police, quoting Azad's daughter Samania Jannati.

"He [Azad] is now at large," she said at 9:45pm yesterday.

After the order was issued at 10:45am, a team of DB searched Azad's Uttarkhan home around 2:30pm.

Azad is known as Bachchu Razakar [collaborator Bachchu] in Faridpur due to his alleged atrocities during the Liberation War.

Yesterday's arrest warrant was expected as per an earlier decision of the tribunal. It said on Monday it would decide on Tuesday (yesterday) whether or not to issue an arrest warrant against Azad, who is facing

SEE PAGE 19 COL 5



## SAUDI TEAM FLIES IN

# Investigators lie low

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

An expert team from Riyadh came to Dhaka yesterday to assist local officials in the probe into the March 6 shooting of Saudi embassy official Khalaf Al Ali.

The eight-member delegation, comprising officials of Saudi Arabian foreign and home ministries, arrived at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport around noon, said Maruf Hassan, a joint commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (Detective Branch).

The identities of its members -- Khalid Al Khamis, Mohammad Al Brasin, Faisal Al Simali, Mohammad Al Gambi, Faisal Al Mutiri, Abdullah Al Sharani, Yahlia Al Shai and Saleh Al Hamid -- could not be known immediately.

They were staying at Hotel Radisson and did not visit the crime scene yet. They held no meeting with any officials of the Bangladesh government either, Maruf Hasan, who received the group at the airport, told The Daily Star last evening.

SEE PAGE 19 COL 4

## NARSINGDI 'GUNFIGHT'

# Rab's claims questioned

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narsingdi

Family members of the six alleged muggers killed during a shootout with a Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) team in Narsingdi on Monday claimed yesterday that the men shot dead were not muggers.

Fazila Begum, mother of victim Mosharraf, said her son was a driver by profession. He was the father of four young children.

"My son cannot be a mugger. As a son of a freedom fighter he cannot commit such crimes, he was killed through a conspiracy. Had he been involved in such

SEE PAGE 19 COL 2

# 8 new banks may get nod

Under pressure central bank gives approval today

REJAUL KARIM BYRON

In the face of pressure from the government high-ups, the Bangladesh Bank (BB) may allow five new private banks to come on the scene against its will.

The board of the central bank may also give its nod to setting up of three NRB (Non-Resident Bangladeshis) banks due to the same pressure.

The five private banks are Union Bank Ltd of former president HM Ershad, Fazle Noor Taposh MP's Modhumati Bank Ltd, Dr Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir's The Farmers' Bank Ltd, South Bangla Agriculture and Commerce Bank of SM Amjad Hossain, and Midland Bank Ltd of Moniruzzaman Khan Khandker.

A meeting of the BB Board will

SEE PAGE 6 COL 7

## WATER SUPPLY IN DHAKA

# Crisis turns acute

HELEMUL ALAM

With the summer approaching, the water crisis in some neighbourhoods of the capital has taken a turn for the worse.

Residents of Shekhertek, Kazipara, Islampur, Farmgate, Tejkunipara, Nodda, Badda, Karwan Bazar and even such affluent areas as Gulshan have been going through

untold sufferings.

Humayun Kabir, a resident of Gulshan, said, "The toilets in my house have become stinky as we cannot flush our toilets due to the water crisis."

"How can we live like this? Tell me."

Ayaan N Ahmed Faruck Chowdhury, a resident of Road-116 of Gulshan, said he purchased 15 jars

of water every day to meet the basic needs of his family.

"It increases our expenses as each jar costs Tk 60," he added.

"Though the owner of our building purchases water from Wasa's lorry, we get only three to four buckets of water, which is very insufficient," Ayaan said.

The residents of Road-104 to -126

SEE PAGE 6 COL 3

In the future, **Made in Bangladesh** articles made from the golden fibre will shine in renewed vigour



With Asian trade volumes set to reach US\$ 14 trillion\* in the next 15 years, Bangladesh's exporters can unlock a world of potential riding on the country's indigenous strengths.

As the leading international bank, HSBC seeks to honour those who endeavour to create a prosperous, shining future for Bangladesh through their export excellence.

## HSBC Export Excellence Awards 2011

Exporters can send nominations, or be nominated by others, by 30 April 2012. Winners will be selected by a panel of independent jury.

Visit **Business Page** for full details

\*Source: HSBC Global Trade Connections

Strategic Partners

**HSBC**   
 Commercial Banking